federal register

Thursday
March 20, 1980

Part IV

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Office of Human Development Services

National Institute of Handicapped Research; Rehabilitation Research and Demonstration Program

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Office of Human Development Services

National Institute of Handicapped Research; Rehabilitation Research and Demonstration Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Handicapped Research (NIHR), Office of Human Development Services, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

ACTION: Solicitation of Scientific Peer Review Committee Members to Review NIHR Grant Applications During Fiscal Year 1980.

SUMMARY: The NIHR, in conjunction with its competitive grant review process and scientific peer review of grant applications, requests that persons willing to serve as members of NIHR scientific peer review committees and review the scientific/technical merit of grant applications assigned to the committees during Fiscal Year 1980 should submit a current curriculum vitae to the following address:

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Institute of Handicapped Research, 3418 Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20201. Attn: Peer Review Unit.

DATES: Open.

Reviewer Qualifications

NIHR is seeking persons with a scientific/professional background in the following fields:

Rehabilitation Medicine (including specialties, such as spinal cord injury, end-stage renal disease, and pediatrics).
Rehabilitation Engineering.
Vocational Counseling, Job Placement, VR Management, and Other Related VR Professions.
Allied Health Fields relating to Rehabilitation (including rehabilitation of handicapped children) such as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Recreational Therapy, Nursing, Speech Therapy, etc.
Mental Retardation.
Deafness and Communicative Disorders.
Blindness.
Psychology relating to Rehabilitation.
Social Work relating to Rehabilitation.
Fields relating to Rehabilitation of Preschool Age Handicapped Children, such as early intervention, parent counseling, infant stimulation, early identification, diagnosis.
Fields relating to Rehabilitation of Handicapped Persons in Rural Areas.
Fields relating to Rehabilitation of Persons Aged Sixty or Older.
Telecommunication Fields relating to Service Delivery and Programming for Handicapped Individuals.
International Rehabilitation.
Rehabilitation Utilization.
Economics relating to Rehabilitation.

Reviewer Selection

Reviewers will be selected based upon their training and experience in relevant scientific or technical fields, taking into account:

(1) The level of formal scientific or technical education completed or experience acquired.

(2) The extent to which the individual has engaged in relevant research, the capacities (e.g., principal investigator, assistant) in which the individual has done so, and the quality of such research.

(3) Recognition, as reflected by awards and other honors received from scientific and professional organizations.

(4) No member of a peer review committee may be an officer or employee of the United States.

(5) Handicapped persons and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.

Since NIHR cannot anticipate the precise number of reviewers needed during the year, all persons selected as reviewers will be placed on a reviewer roster from which they will be randomly selected to serve as needs dictate.

Reviewers selected from the reviewer roster will be notified approximately 45 days in advance with respect to the time and place of the peer review committee meeting which they are asked to attend. If unable to attend, they will be placed back on the reviewer roster for future consideration.

Reviewer Duties

Reviewers will be expected to do the following:

(1) Travel to the review meeting.

(2) Read approximately 15–20 grant applications.

(3) Complete a scientific/technical evaluation of each application, based on scientific/technical evaluation criteria established by NIHR in its implementing regulations and program announcements.

(4) Spend up to five days at the review site during a review meeting.

Reviewer Reimbursement

Reviewers will be reimbursed for travel expenses and receive a consultant fee of $150 per day for each day or part of a day spent reviewing applications at the meeting site.

Governing Regulations

The conduct of peer review meetings and selection of reviewers are governed to the extent applicable by 45 CFR Part 11; Pub. L. 95–602; Implementing Program Regulations; Chapter 9 of the DHEW General Administration Manual; 45 CFR Part 100; 45 CFR Part 73; Title 18 USC; Executive Order 11222, as amended; and 45 CFR Parts 5 and 5b. In addition to the conditions imposed above, no person shall serve on a peer review committee who has a conflict of interest with respect to any pending grant application competing under the same program as any of the grant applications to be reviewed by that panel.

A person has a conflict of interest with respect to an application if any of the following has a financial interest, within the meaning of 18 USC 208, in that application:

(a) He, his spouse, minor child, or partner;

(b) A profit or nonprofit organization in which the person is serving as an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee;

(c) Any person or organization with whom the person is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Dated: March 4, 1980.

Margaret J. Giannini, M.D.,
Director, National Institute of Handicapped Research.

Approved: March 14, 1980.

Warren Master,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Human Development Services.

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